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ABSTRACT

This bibliography provides a selective list of books that could be purchased for a basic reference collection in an elementary (kindergarten through grade 6) library media center. The materials are arranged both by type of reference tool and by subject area. Contents include: (1) Almanacs; (2) Dictionaries; (3) Encyclopedias; (4) Customs, Costumes; (5) Social Science; (6) Language; (7) Science, Technology; (8) Art, Literature; (9) Sports, Hobbies; (10) Biography; (11) Geography, History; (12) Periodical Indexes; and (13) For Further Information. (THC)

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A Basic Collection for an Elementary School

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Superintendent of Schools • San Diego County Office of Education

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FOREWORD

As school systems are attempting to individualize instruction, attention is focusing on school library media centers to provide students with access to a wide variety of materials and information. The reference collection is a valuable source of information. The purpose of this bibliography is to provide a selective list of books that could be purchased for a basic reference collection in an elementary school (K-6) library media center. The materials are arranged both by type of reference tool and by subject area. Since this bibliography is intended as a list of possible titles for purchase, the books are not available from the Instructional Resource Center School Library Service.

Appreciation is expressed to the following library media specialists who contributed to this bibliography: Linda Ashley, Coordinator of Media Services, La Mesa-Spring Valley; Darlene Bates, Instructional Media Consultant, San Diego Unified (currently on leave); Ellen Tyler, Librarian, Hilltop Drive School, Chula Vista City (retired); Margaret Spengler, District Librarian, La Mesa-Spring Valley (retired); Sue Bruderer, Instructional Media Specialist, Cajon Valley Union; and Sandra Zevely, Coordinator, Instructional Media Services, San Diego County Office of Education. Special thanks goes to Kay Niemeyer, Coordinator, School Library Resources, San Diego County Office of Education, and Carole Fleming, Media Center Teacher, Capri School, Encinitas Union, for editorial assistance.

Gerald A. Rosander
Superintendent of Schools

ALMANACS

Information please almanac, atlas and yearbook. Simon and Schuster, annual. Available in paperback.

Similar to World Almanac, Information Please contains fewer statistics and data but is more readable because of larger, clearer type and heavier paper. Especially important are the reviews of the year on Washington, sports, theatre, fiction, movies, music, and the performing arts. It also lists statistical and historical descriptions of the countries of the world, sports records, plus many kinds of general information. Also included is a day-by-day news chronology.

The world almanac and book of facts. The World Almanac, annual. Available in paperback.

The most authoritative compendium of facts on such topics as population, economics, sports events, politics, religion, education, the United States, and other countries. The chronology of events provides summary histories of the previous year. There is an extensive index.

DICTIONARIES

Barnhart, Clarence L., ed. Scott, Foresman advanced dictionary. Doubleday, 1978.

Contains more than 95,000 entries including biographical, historical and geographical terms, in one alphabet. The introductory section includes material on how to use this dictionary and a complete pronunciation key. Recommended for grades 7-12.

Barnhart, Clarence L., ed. Scott, Foresman beginning dictionary. Doubleday.

More than 25,000 entries are listed in this dictionary which has large, clear type, simple definitions, alternate meanings, pronunciation keys and striking illustrations. Recommended for grades 3-5.

Barnhart, Clarence L., ed. Scott, Foresman intermediate dictionary. Doubleday, 1978.

Designed for grades 6-8, this dictionary contains more than 57,000 entries. Entries contain any or all of the following: pronunciation, definition, illustrative sentence, part of speech label, idioms, etymology.

Barnhart, Clarence L., ed. World Book dictionary. (rev. ed.). World Book-Childcraft, 1980. 2 volumes.

Designed to be used with The World Book Encyclopedia, the dictionary gives meanings, usage notes, word history and illustrative words and sentences for 225,000 words.

Eastman, P. D. Cat in the hat beginner book dictionary in English and Spanish. Random House, 1966.

A basic vocabulary of more than 100 Spanish words adapted by Robert R. Nardelli and illustrated by P. D. Eastman. Designed for beginners learning Spanish. Guide to Spanish pronunciation in back of book.

Halsey, William D., ed. Macmillan school dictionary. Macmillan, 1981.

Contains 65,000 entries with phonetic spelling, variant forms, parts of speech, definitions arranged by frequency of use and simple sentences. Geographical and biographical entries are included.

Halsey, William D., ed. Magic world of words: the new Macmillan very first dictionary. Macmillan, 1977.

Alphabetical list of over 1500 common words defined through a series of sentences. Over 500 illustrations are used to explain the conceptual words.

My first dictionary. Houghton, 1980.

Intended for children ages five to eight. Contains more than 1700 main-entry words including 500 basic words young children use daily.

Peers, Edgar A., ed. Cassell's Spanish dictionary: Spanish-English, English-Spanish. Macmillan, 1977.

Up-to-date and broad in scope, includes modern Spanish and literary Spanish. Shows parts of speech and the field to which the word belongs. Appendixes include conjunction of verbs, abbreviations, and geographical names.

Velazquez, Mariano, et al. The Spanish and English, English and Spanish dictionary. Prentice-Hall, 1973.

About 151,000 entries. Modern, with particular attention to terms and idioms used in Spanish America and the United States. Appended lists of geographical and personal names.

Webster's third new international dictionary, unabridged: the great library of the English language. Merriam, 1976.

This completely revised edition contains more than 460,000 entries. Entries provide the phonetic spelling, part of speech, etymologies, synonyms and antonyms.

ENCYCLOPEDIAS

Britannica junior encyclopaedia for boys and girls. Encyclopaedia Britannica Educational Corp. 15 volumes. Revised annually.

Suitable for use in the upper elementary grades, this encyclopedia is geared to the elementary school curricula and emphasizes science, social studies, and geography. Long, well-developed articles, supplemented by many brief, dictionary-type fact entries in ready reference index.

Childcraft; the how and why library. World Book-Childcraft, 1981. 15 volumes.

A browsing and informational set especially designed for pre-school and primary grade use in choice of content, vocabulary, illustration, and typographical format. Volumes are arranged by subjects and reflect the young child's interests. Highly recommended as a useful source for creative teaching.

Compton's encyclopedia and fact-index. Compton. 26 volumes. Revised regularly.

Authoritative general encyclopedia. Particularly useful for the subject outlines and quick fact index located in each volume. The Compton Yearbook supplements the set. Recommended for grades 4-12.

Merit students encyclopedia. Macmillan. 20 volumes. Revised annually.

Designed for students in the fifth grade and up, this encyclopedia is especially strong on countries, states, science, art and literature. It is scholarly without being too difficult. Longer articles sometimes include graded bibliographies, cross-references, and illustrative material. Supplemented by Merit Students Year Book.

The book of knowledge; the children's encyclopedia. Grolier. 21 volumes. Revised annually.

Aimed at grades 3-6, this encyclopedia is geared to a school curriculum and is especially outstanding for its full color illustrations. Cross-references and a fact-index in each volume assist in locating information. Separate index available only to schools and libraries. Supplemented by The New Book of Knowledge Annual.

Nuevo tesoro de la juventud. Grolier. 20 volumes.

The Spanish version of The New Book of Knowledge; The Children's Encyclopedia. Recommended where Spanish is taught or spoken.

World book encyclopedia. World Book-Childcraft. 22 volumes. Revised annually.

This attractive, easy-to-read encyclopedia contains a well-balanced selection of articles that correspond to school curricula. Strong coverage is in vocational guidance, science, literature and art, and biography. The Research Guide/Index provides a comprehensive subject index to the set. Supplemented by the World Book Year Book. Highly recommended.

CUSTOMS, COSTUMES

Barber, Richard. Companion to world mythology. Delacorte, 1980.

A selective dictionary of characters from all mythology. Contains capsule myths.

Dobler, Lavinia. Customs and holidays around the world. Fleet Press, 1962.

Follows the seasons through many countries, explaining how holidays (primarily religious) are celebrated. Although Christian holidays are emphasized, it also includes those of Judaism, Islam, and Buddhism. Comprehensive index. Junior high level.

Dobler, Lavinia. National holidays around the world. Fleet Press, 1968.

This handbook gives the dates on which the various nations of the world won their independence, the location of each nation, the title of its national anthem, a description of its flag and an explanation of the meaning of the flag's colors or symbols.

Gorsline, Douglas. What people wore; a visual history of dress from ancient times to twentieth century America. Crown, 1974.

This survey of Western clothing reviews ancient dress, traces dress from Middle Ages to World War I, and devotes the last third of the book to a history of American dress to 1925. Calendars of historical events and personalities of each period highlight the chapters.

Gregory, Ruth W. Anniversaries and holidays. 3rd ed. American Library Association, 1975.

Includes four groups of days: religious, people, patriotic or civil holidays, and special events. Lists books about actual anniversaries and holidays, on planning for the days, and about people related to the calendar day. Highly recommended.

Hatch, Jane M., ed. American book of days, 3rd ed. Wilson, 1978.
Subtitle: "Compendium of information about holidays, festivals, notable anniversaries and Christian and Jewish holy days with notes on other American anniversaries worthy of remembrance."

A standard reference revised and updated with careful research. Arranged chronologically according to the days on the calendar, it contains an extensive index to aid in location of material. Updated to include native American history and culture and women's rights.

Worrell, Estelle A. Children's costume in America 1607-1910. Scribners, 1981.

Chronologically arranged, this book is suited for a capable fifth or sixth grade student through adults. Children of all ages are depicted in country, city and various regional clothing styles.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

McWhirter, Norris. Guinness book of world records, 1982, rev. ed. Sterling, 1981.

Collection of quantitative facts covering the natural world, the animal kingdom, science, sports, and other fields.

Robert, H. M. Robert's rules of order, rev. ed. Revell, 1980. Paperback.

Standard rules for conducting meetings. Part I consists of the rules of order, a compendium of parliamentary law based upon the rules and practices of Congress. Part II is the organization and conduct of business, an explanation of the methods of organizing and conducting the business of societies, conventions, and other assemblies.

Roget, Peter M. Roget's international thesaurus: the complete book of synonyms and antonyms in American and British usage. 4th ed. Crowell, 1977.

Arranged in Roget's original classification of idea and format, this thesaurus provides words for meanings as opposed to a general language dictionary which gives definitions to words. 240,000 entries plus 45,000 additional words in the areas of science and technology comprise the completely revised edition. For advanced students.

Roget's II: the new thesaurus. Houghton Mifflin, 1980.

An entirely new work representing a change from the traditional thesaurus. In the left-hand column of each page all entries are arranged in alphabetical order and are classified by part of speech. In the right-hand column synonyms and idioms are listed alphabetically within groups. The new arrangement eliminates the need for complicated indexes and redundant listings. Junior high and up.

Schiller, Andrew. In other words: a beginning thesaurus. Rev. ed. Lothrop, 1978.

Starting with over 100 words commonly used by elementary school children, this beginning thesaurus suggests more than 1,000 synonyms and antonyms. The first part of the book explains how to use a thesaurus; the second part lists all the words, synonyms, and antonyms in alphabetical order; and the third part presents sets of related words which are not interchangeable. For children in grades 2-4.

Schiller, Andrew. Junior thesaurus: in other words II. Rev. ed. Lothrop, 1978.

Companion volume to In Other Words, designed for children in grades 3-7. This book offers over 2,000 synonyms and antonyms for 300 words commonly used by older students. The introduction explains how to use the thesaurus. Words can be located either in the main body, arranged alphabetically, or in the index, where entry words, synonyms, and antonyms are listed.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY

Clement, Roland C. Nature atlas of America. 2nd ed. Hammond, 1976.

Contains general information about common trees, wild flowers, mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, fishes and insects. Special colored maps.

Kondo, Herbert, ed. The new book of popular science. Grolier, 1981. 6 volumes.

A science reference set for upper grade students arranged on a classified basis with 15 different groups (e.g., The Universe, The Earth). Well indexed, well illustrated, its authority is vouched for by recommendation by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Useful if additional science reference sources are needed.

Young people's science encyclopedia; by the staff Of National College of Education. Rev. ed. Childrens Press, 1979. 20 volumes.

Prepared specifically for children in elementary and junior high schools. There are over 4,000 entries with more than 2,500 colored illustrations. Volume 20 contains index, bibliography, teachers' and parents' guide and science units for grades 3-8.

ART, LITERATURE

Bartlett, John. Bartlett's familiar quotations: a collection of passages, phrases and proverbs traced to their sources in ancient and modern literature. Rev. and enlarged. 15th ed. Little, Brown, 1980.

More than 22,500 quotations are included in this revised, updated, and enlarged book of quotations. Chronologically arranged by author and indexed by key words, this volume is an index for identification of memorable quotations.

Brewer, E. Cobham. Brewer's dictionary of phrase and fable. Ed. by Ivor H. Evans. Centenary ed. Harper, 1971.

Contains 20,000 terms, phrases, names of persons and fictitious characters found in world literature, figures from mythology, slang superstitions, and etymological information.

Brewton, John E. and Sara W. Brewton, comps. Index to children's poetry. Wilson, 1942.

An index by title, subject, author and first line to poems in collections for children. Approximate grade levels are noted for each anthology included. There are also two supplements (1954 and 1965) as well as an Extension of Index to Poetry for Children and Young People, 1964-1969 (1972).

De Montreville, Doris, ed. Fourth book of junior authors and illustrators. Wilson, 1978.

The latest addition to the Junior Authors series includes autobiographical and biographical sketches of 243 authors and illustrators.

De Montreville, Doris, ed. Third book of junior authors. Wilson, 1972.

This addition to the Junior Authors series, the Third Book book includes biographical sketches on 255 authors and illustrators of books for children and young adults.

Fuller, Muriel, ed. More junior authors. Wilson, 1963.

A supplement to Junior Book of Authors, More Junior Authors includes biographical materials on 268 authors and illustrators of children's and young adult books.

Kunitz, Stanley J., ed. The junior book of authors. 2nd rev. ed. Wilson, 1951.

Over 280 authors and illustrators of children's books are listed alphabetically in this essential dictionary. Interesting life stories with photographs and the biographee's works are included with each entry.

Shorewood Publishers, Inc. The Shorewood art reference guide. Shorewood, 1969.

A useful guide to the purchase of art reproductions and handbook of information-digest about artists. A list of works classified by grade levels and subjects and an index with pronunciations and translation guides add to its value.

Stevenson, Burton, ed. Home book of quotations, classical and modern. 10th rev. ed. Dodd, Mead, 1967.

Arranged alphabetically by subjects, the Home Book of Quotations includes approximately 73,000 quotations. A word index lists the quotations by leading words. The author index includes brief biographies. This volume is preferable to Bartlett's book since it contains 3 times more entries.

SPORTS, HOBBIES

Diagram Group. Rules of the game. Large format ed. Bantam, 1976.

The complete illustrated encyclopedia of all the sports of the world explains more than 150 sports and 400 sporting events with over 2,500 drawings to show playing field, equipment and techniques. Includes official rules of events in the Olympic games.

Mackay, James A. The dictionary of stamps in color. Macmillan, 1973.

The dictionary is arranged by continent and describes the full-color plates in the sequence in which they appear. Europe, Asia, Africa, America, Australia, and Polynesia are covered. Color, size, date and price of each stamp are given.

McWhirter, Norris, ed. Guinness book of sports records, winners and champions. Sterling, 1980.

The most interesting facts about sports have been collected from the Guinness Book of World Records. The book is arranged by specific sports. Some of the sports included are auto racing, sailing, bullfighting, chess, and pigeon racing.

Menke, Frank G. Encyclopedia of sports. 6th rev. ed. Barnes, 1978.

Comprehensive coverage of all the major sports. Lists facts, such as seating capacity of some U. S. stadiums.

Merriam-Webster Editorial Staff, ed. Webster's sports dictionary. Merriam, 1976.

Definitions of over 8,000 terms from a wide variety of individual and group sports are clearly given. Special features are referee's signals and scorekeeping.

Reinfeld, Fred. Coin collector's handbook. Rev. ed. Doubleday, 1980.

This periodically revised handbook describes collecting and caring for coins as well as determining their value. Glossary and index.

Reinfeld, Fred. Stamp collector's handbook. Doubleday, 1980.

The book contains a history of the U. S. postal system, and discusses the tools and terms of stamp collecting.

BIOGRAPHY

Kane, Joseph N. Facts about the presidents; a compilation of biographical and historical data. 4th ed. Wilson, 1981.

A chapter of concise data on each president. The book covers family histories, elections, congressional sessions, vice presidents, and highlights of their lives. Comparative data and statistics on each president are also given.

Webster's biographical dictionary. Merriam, 1976

Lists and briefly identifies more than 40,000 persons on an international basis, but with emphasis on American and British names. Has restricted coverage of persons prominent in sports, motion pictures, contemporary theatre, and television.

GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY

Barraclough, E. M., ed. Flags of the world. Rev. ed. Warne, 1979.

Includes flags of the U. S., Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Europe, obscure flags, signal flags, and flags of corporations and public institutions.

Earle, Olive L. State birds and flowers. Rev. ed. Morrow, 1961.

Brief description with drawings of symbols chosen by many states.

Goode, John. Goode's world atlas. 15th ed. Rand McNally, 1978.

A student atlas containing many world maps showing climate, rainfall, populations, products, etc.

Kane, Joseph N. Famous first facts. 4th ed. Wilson, 1981.

More than 9,000 American "firsts" are recorded in this revised and expanded fourth edition. This book identifies and explains briefly first events, first discoveries, first inventions in America all alphabetically arranged. A handy and useful guide for quick reference questions.

National Geographic Society. National Geographic atlas of the world. 5th ed. National Geographic Society, 1981.

Considered to be one of the finest atlases produced in the United States, this atlas provides maps for each geographic region, descriptive gazetteer with the flag, a brief history and vital statistics. 139,000 entries are included in the index.

Shapiro, William, ed. Lands and people. Rev. ed. Grolier, 1981. 6 volumes.

Arranged geographically, information is given about the sociology, history, geography, anthropology, economics, political science, culture, religion, and the arts. Useful for both comparative and individual studies of the countries.

Smith, Whitney, ed. Flag book of the United States; the story of the stars and stripes and the flags of the fifty states. Rev. ed. Morrow, 1975.

Utilizing both text and 270 illustrations, this book covers the history of the American flag, flags of all 50 states, state seals, important flags of the United States government and Armed Forces, and flag etiquette. Glossary and index.

Webster's new geographical dictionary. Rev. ed. Merriam, 1977.

A compact source of worldwide geographical information. Extremely brief information is given for over 47,000 alphabetically arranged entries selected on the basis of importance, usefulness, and interest. Useful for upper elementary through high school.

World Book-Childcraft Staff and Garbarino, Merwyn. Indian book. (Childcraft Annual Ser.). World Book-Childcraft, 1980.

Arranged by tribes and contains some "hard-to-find" ones. Very useful.

PERIODICAL INDEXES

Abridged readers' guide to periodical literature, vols. 13-30. Wilson, 1960-1980.

Issued monthly from September through May, the abridged guide indexes 58 periodicals published in the United States. The index is arranged alphabetically by author and subject. Cross references and subheadings aid in locating materials. Check magazines that are indexed against library subscription list.

Children's magazine guide. Pleasant T. Rowland.

This monthly periodical index indexes approximately 50 children's magazines, such as Ebony Jr., Jack and Jill, Cricket, Humpty Dumpty, and Ranger Rick's Nature Magazine. Previously published as Subject Index to Children's Magazines.

National Geographic magazine; cumulative index. National Indexes: Vol. 1 1888-1946, Vol. 2 1947-1976 with 1977-1980 supplement. National Geographic Society.

Indexes all the material in this highly important magazine.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Peterson, Carolyn S. Reference books for children. Scarecrow, 1981.

An annotated guide to nearly 900 reference books and selection tools designed to be used in libraries serving children.

Winkel, Lois. The elementary school library collection. 13th ed. Brodart, 1982.

Keyed for first, second, and third purchase of books, audiovisuals, periodicals, and 312 reference books. A valuable part of the reference collection as well as a selection tool and checklist.